

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2003, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

As preliminary matters, corrected formal drawings reflecting the proposed modifications filed on October 10, 2002 are now required. Applicant attaches the corrected drawings to this response.

Turning to the merits of the Office Action, claims 1-8, 31, 34, 59 and 62-63 remain pending. Claim 63 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as not being supported by the specification. Claim 59 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-4, 5-8, 59 and 62 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Van den Bogaert in view of Tsuji and Takahashi. Claims 31 and 34 remain rejected under Section 103 as being unpatentable over Van den Bogaert in view of Tsuji and Takahashi and further in view of Hunter. All references are previously of record. Claims 1, 5, 31, 34 and 62 have been amended to include features of previously pending dependent claims. Therefore, the Amendment raises no new issues and should be entered as they place the application in condition for allowance.

With regard to the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of claim 63, we will refer the Examiner to page 68 of the specification which describes recording in conjunction with a read out, and to page 68, last three lines which describes read out under avalanche conditions. Therefore, claim 63 is adequately supported by the specification. Because the Examiner has posed no prior art rejection of claim 63, the claim is patentable.

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With regard to the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claim 59, a proposed correction is set forth in the attached Appendix. Because the Examiner apparently has construed the claim to include such features, the modification should be entered since it raises no new issues and simplifies matters for appeal.

With regard to the prior art rejections, Applicant submits that neither Van den Bogaert nor Hunter teaches spaced apart electrodes.

In Van den Bogaert and Hunter, information on momentary light, which is two-dimensional, emitted from the stimuable phosphor sheet can be used only as zero-dimensional information.

According to the present invention, since the electrodes of the photoconductor are made of an array of spaced apart electrodes, information on momentary light emitted from the stimuable phosphor sheet can be used as one-dimensional or two-dimensional information, and hence the information can be fed back to image processing conditions or the like.

Additionally, Claims 1, 5 and 62 are patentable for at least these reasons. Claims 31 and 34 describe a single spaced arrangement not taught by the art of record.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that claims 1-8, 31, 34, 59, 62 and 63 are in condition for allowance. Therefore it is respectfully requested that the subject application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

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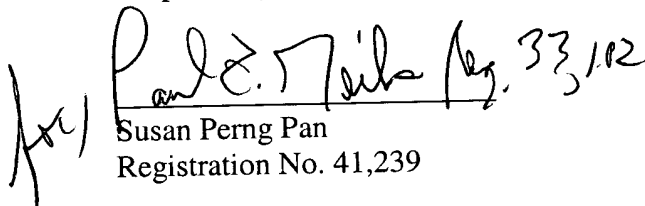
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